

What is claimed is:

1. A hand guard for protecting a sensing hand from sharp implements, comprising three nonporous foils, as a first foil, a metacarpal cover shaped to cover the metacarpals and wrap around to cover a portion of the palm and thenar web space and a fastener to fasten said first foil to itself, a digit guard being a thumb guard shaped as an elongated, hemispherical, cupped foil with contours to fit in overlying position and covering the dorsal and lateral portions of the thumb extending over a portion of both phalanges of the thumb, and a second finger guard shaped as an elongated, hemispherical, cupped foil with contours to fit in overlying position and covering the dorsal and lateral portions of a finger and a portion of three phalanges of the finger, wherein each of said digit guards are connected to said metacarpal guard by a movable linkage providing at least partial rotation and translation of the digit guards, each of said linkage being at the proximal ends of each digit guard and bridging space to the distal end of said metacarpal guard in substantial alignment with the projection of the thumb and index finger, each said digit guard contains a digit fastener operable to span the opposite sides of each guard to urge or retain the digit guard in close proximity to the dorsal side of the finger, and each said digit guard allowing direct skin contact with the distal pads of the last phalange of each digit.
2. The hand guard of claim 1 wherein said metacarpal guard covers the metacarpal region up to the wrist and over the first knuckles and partially or completely wraps around the thenar web and palm area
3. The hand guard of claim 1 wherein said movable linkage between the

metatarsal guard and each digit guard is independently selected from the group consisting of a flexible band, loop, an adhered strap, a fused strap, adhesive strap, a tied filament, an elongated strip integral at one end with the guards and at the free end containing a terminal adhesive pad, hook or loop pad, push tab or slot tab.

4. The hand guard of claim 1 further comprising a third digit guard, adapted in the shape of elongated, hemispherical, cupped foil with contours to fit in overlying position and covering the dorsal and lateral portions of the middle finger and a portion of three phalanges of the middle finger.

5. The hand guard of claim 1 wherein the finger guard is an index finger guard.

6. The hand guard of claim 1 wherein said digit fasteners are independently selected from the group consisting of and adhesive tape, bands, direct skin-contacting adhesive affixed to the underside of the digit guard, hook and loop strips or tape, affixed tab-insert loop, integral tab-insert loop, affixed slot-insert tabs, integral slot insert tabs, riveted strap, adhesively affixed tape, heat-sealed strip, fused tape and snap-engaging straps.

7. A hand guard for protecting a sensing hand from sharp implements, comprising a metacarpal guard portion flexibly linked to three digits guard portions, said metacarpal guard portion shaped to cover the metacarpals and wrap around over part of the palm and thenar web space areas, and fastenable to itself by a fastener, each of said digit guard portions containing a digit fastener that yields or is disengaged for

removing the guard after use, the digit guards are the thumb and two finger guards, each shaped as an elongated, hemispherical, cupped foil with contours to fit in overlying position and covering the dorsal and lateral portions of the digits extending, respectively over a portion of both phalanges of the thumb, and two or three phalanges of the fingers, each digit guard being connected to said metacarpal guard by a movable or flexible linkage providing freedom of flexing and translation of the digit guards, the flexible linkage located from the proximal ends of each digit guard and bridging space to the distal end of said metacarpal guard and aligned with the projection of the thumb and fingers, each said digit guard contains a digit fastener to retain the digit guard in close proximity to the dorsal side of the finger, said hand guard providing protection and direct skin contact at the ventral side of the digits for sensing a patient's skin.

8. The hand guard of claim 7 wherein said flexible linkage between the metacarpal guard and each digit guard is independently selected from bands, monofilaments, tapes, straps, interconnecting narrow regions of an integral linkage, linking being at distal points on the metacarpal guard linking proximal points of the thumb and finger guards .

9. The hand guard of claim 7 wherein said digit fasteners for each digit guard are independently selected from the group consisting of adhesive tape, bands, direct skin-contacting adhesive for fixing to the underside of the digit guard, hook and loop strips or tape, affixed tab-insert loop, integral tab-insert loop, affixed slot-insert tabs, integral slot insert tabs, riveted strap, adhesively affixed tape, heat-sealed strip, fused tape and snap-engaging straps.

10. A unitary, one-piece hand guard for protect a sensing hand from sharp implements a unitary set of guards fabricated from one foil, and comprising palm/metacarpal guard portion integrally linked to three digits guard portions, said metacarpal guard portion shaped to cover the metacarpals and wrap around over part of the palm and thenar web space areas, and fastenable to itself by a fastener, each of said digit guard portions containing a digit fastener that yields or is disengaged for removing the guard after use, the digit guards are the thumb and two finger guards, each shaped as an elongated, hemispherical, cupped foil with contours to fit in overlying position and covering the dorsal and lateral portions of the digits extending, respectively over a portion of both phalanges of the thumb, and two or three phalanges of the fingers.

11. The hand guard of claim 10 wherein said digit fasteners are integral at one end at the sides of the digit guards and protrude to a free terminal end having a fastener, which can engage the opposite side into a slot, a borethrough hole or adhesive-receptive surface.

12. The hand guard of claim 11 wherein the free terminal end contains a fastener selected from the group consisting of adhesive, hook or loop pad, slot insert tab, push tab insert and a snap.

13. A hand guard assembly in three separate pieces, comprising an integral metacarpal guard with hook and loop fastener, and integral thumb guard, and two detached finger guards, said finger guards containing adhesive affixed to the undersides, and said thumb guard containing a hook and loop fastener.

14. A hand guard in three separate pieces wherein a metacarpal guard is

integrally linked to an index finger guard, and including a separate thumb guard, said finger or thumb guard containing hook and loop fasteners, or direct skin-adhering adhesive affixed to the underside surface of each digit guard, said adhesive covered by a release film for storage prior to use.